

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of

3

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/766,167
Filing Date	January 28, 2004
First Named Inventor	T. Andrew Simonton
Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	Thomas Sweet

Attorney Docket Number MSDI-556/PC947.00

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,423,096.5	07-23-2002	Van Hoeck et al.	
		US- 6,428,544	08-06-2002	Ralph et al.	
		US- 6,432,140	08-13-2002	Liu	
		US- 6,447,548	09-10-2002	Ralph et al.	
		US- 6,458,159	10-01-2002	Thalgott	
		US- 6,471,725	10-29-2002	Ralph et al.	
		US- 6,507,557	08-19-2003	Brosnahan et al.	
		US- 6,610,065	08-26-2003	Branch et al.	
		US- 6,610,089	08-2003	Liu et al.	
		US- 6,719,794	04-2004	Gerber et al.	
		US- 6,743,257	06-01-2004	Castro	
		US- 6,746,484	06-08-2004	Liu et al.	
		US- 6,749,636	06-15-2004	Michelson	
		US- 6,890,355	05-10-2005	Michelson	
		US- 2001/0049560	12-06-2001	Paul et al.	
		US- 2002/0062153	05-23-2002	Paul et al.	
		US- 2002/0087212	07-04-2002	James et al.	
		US- 2002/0165550	11-07-2002	Frey et al.	
		US- 2003/0023306	01-30-2003	Liu et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		FR 2 724 312	04-21-1995	Alby Albert	Figures 1-5	
		FR 2 736 538	07-12-1995	Gastambide Daniel	Figures 1-9	
		FR 2 742 044	12-11-1995	Medinov SA Societe Anonym	Figures 1-5	
		FR 2 795 945	01-12-2001	Bernard et al.		
		FR 2 841 124 A1 *	12-26-2003	Eurosurgical Societe Anon		
		WO 01/03615 A1	01-18-2001	Scientix	Abstract, Figures	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

1/12/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.